From: erw

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 12/10/01 12:18pm

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Just a little note from us little guys.

I would like to see some protection for the linux / open source software developers. It would be nice if a citizen could choose any OS or software package because of their personnal preference. I use linux, as well as nt and 98. Each has its own strengths and er....weaknesses. Things like samba and wine are great tools that have been forged from a desire to use some of the giants available software and still use our desired os.

Things like the API's should be available to all. Why should the defacto standard

desktop os have difficulty licensing (for free) to all who need to know. Even GM allows vendors to sell repair manuals that detail the functions of your car.

Please look at Section III(D) and Section III(J)(2)

Thank you, Earl